

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION 36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The 36th District Court is to administer justice with fairness, equality and integrity, resolve matters before the court in a timely manner with trained and motivated staff, and provide courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires public trust and confidence.

DESCRIPTION

The 36th District Court is a limited jurisdiction court serving the City of Detroit. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction in all litigation up to \$25,000 and handles small claims and landlord/tenant proceedings. The 36th District Court handles a large volume of civil infraction traffic violations, drunk driving, misdemeanor and felony arraignments, and some parking violations, among various other court responsibilities. Criminal jurisdiction includes all misdemeanor criminal offenses and preliminary examination of felony offenses. Annual case filings exceed 450,000, the majority of which are handled in the Traffic and Ordinance Division. Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court, the 36th District Court has 31 judges, 6 magistrates, and over 400 employees at a single location in downtown Detroit. The 36th District Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation. On a monthly basis more than 160,000 citizens conduct business at the court and in excess of 65,000 telephone inquiries are received.

MAJOR INITIATIVES FOR FY 2005-06 and FY 2006-07

For the past three years, the Court has experienced the unprecedented challenge of continuing court operations while facing

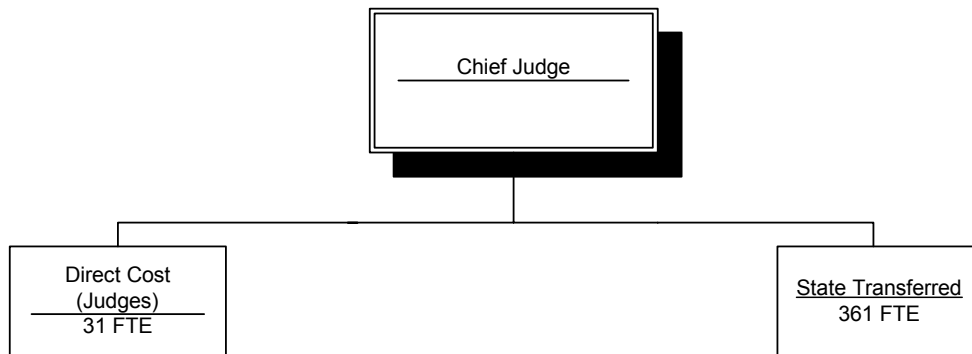
significant reductions in appropriations. As a result, the court has instituted a hiring freeze and eliminated all but essential overtime.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE FOR FY 2006-07, FY 2007-08 and BEYOND

In the future, the 36th District Court plans to introduce new technologies to improve the timeliness and effectiveness of court operations. Two of these new technologies include imaging equipment and interactive voice response (IVR) system. Imaging equipment improves court operations by providing the court with the means to electronically scan traffic tickets into the computer system. This would improve the court's effectiveness and reduce costs by eliminating the need to manually enter each ticket into the database. Once the ticket information has been imaged into the system, the public would be able to access the IVR system twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, to obtain ticket information, schedule a court date, or pay a ticket.

Despite budgetary challenges, the 36th District Court continues to hold its vision of becoming nationally recognized as a leader in providing innovative, cost effective and efficient administration of justice. One of the most cost-effective ways to materialize this vision is through the use of technology. By using technology, the court will not only enhance internal processes but also provide better services to the community.

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PERFORMANCE GOALS, MEASURES AND TARGETS

Type of Performance Measure: List of Measures	2004-05 Actual	2005-06 Projection	2006-07 Target
Output: Units of Activity directed towards Goals			
Felony	10,657	11,723	12,309
Misdemeanor	58,785	64,664	67,897
Civil Infractions	3,486	3,835	4,026
Misdemeanors and Civil Infractions	168,380	185,218	194,479
Operating under the Influence of Liquor (OUI/OWI)	3,586	3,945	4,142
General	44,822	49,304	51,769
Small Claims	6,719	7,391	7,760
Real Estate	34,541	37,995	39,895
Total Cases	330,976	364,074	382,277

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EXPENDITURES

	2004-05 Actual Expense	2005-06 Redbook	2006-07 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Salary & Wages	\$ 20,028,463	\$ 15,336,491	\$ 18,019,461	2,682,970	17%
Employee Benefits	9,627,050	8,186,625	11,271,741	3,085,116	38%
Prof/Contractual	4,414,181	3,795,197	1,852,520	(1,942,677)	-51%
Operating Supplies	664,898	635,812	465,812	(170,000)	-27%
Operating Services	10,532,386	12,081,020	9,963,579	(2,117,441)	-18%
Capital Equipment	1,637,896	67,000	67,000	-	0%
Capital Outlays	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Expenses	1,582,181	2,856,057	859,499	(1,996,558)	-70%
TOTAL	\$ 48,487,055	\$ 42,958,202	\$ 42,499,612	\$ (458,590)	-1%
POSITIONS	461	397	392	(5)	-1%

REVENUES

	2004-05 Actual Revenue	2005-06 Redbook	2006-07 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Fines/Forfeits/Penalties	\$ 9,041,905	\$ 12,320,000	\$ 12,570,000	\$ 250,000	2%
Grants/Shared Taxes	300,000	796,928	829,475	32,547	4%
Sales & Charges	12,628,383	10,236,376	10,756,127	519,751	5%
TOTAL	\$ 21,970,288	\$ 23,353,304	\$ 24,155,602	\$ 802,298	3%

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